Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* So, Government is not going to make this change even though the Bengal Government have done it ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* My reply to that is that other governments have not done it, except the Bengal Government.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* How will it become an All-India affair ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* I can say how it can be an All-India affair. The point in my favour is that no other government has taken up the question. Secondly, I have made a reference to the highest educational authority for Madras, *i.e.*, to the Registrar of the Madras University and I have got a very subtle reply. I addressed the Registrar: "Will you please ascertain from the research department and let me know whether it is not desirable that we should do away with the Black-hole myth from our history as the Bengal Government have done?" I will just read the reply to the same.—"I beg to inform you that I do not propose to obtain the views of the Professor of Indian History of this University regarding the authenticity or otherwise of the Black-hole myth and that this University cannot go into such controversial matters."

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Is the result of the Bengal myth over ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* It is still controversial, he says.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Is he the final authority, so far as the Cochin State is concerned ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* He is the final authority so far as this University area is concerned.

CENTRAL JAIL PRISONERS—PARTICULARS REGARDING

72. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the total number of prisoners in the Central Jail, Trichur, at present;

(*b*) of these, how many are juveniles and how many females;

(*c*) whether the new Diwan visited the Central Jail; if so, what all suggestions he made for the better accommodation and treatment of the prisoners?

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*:

(*a*) 457 on 30th Thulam 1117 (15th November 1941).

(*b*) Juveniles 14.
Females 11.

(*c*) Yes. The construction of one more block with 56 cells for the accommodation of prisoners has since been sanctioned. The question of construction of a juvenile block is also under consideration. The fly-proof arrangement of the kitchen in the Central Jail was found not adequate and orders have been issued to make it effective.

Mr V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: May I know which is majority community among this 457 inhabitants?

Mr. President: That question does not arise.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi)*: May I know the number of persons put in one cell at a time?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: The accommodation now is not sufficient and we are making further accommodation. At present even two or three persons are put in one cell together.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi)*: By providing 56 cells more, may I know whether a single prisoner can be accommodated in one cell?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: In one cell two prisoners can be accommodated.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: May I know whether juvenile offenders are put along with the other prisoners?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: No.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: Will the Government be pleased to separate the juvenile block from the other prisoners so that they may be given better instructions?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: That is the present idea.

TRICHUR WATER SUPPLY—DIGGING OF TANKS OUTSIDE THE TOWN

73. **Mr. C. R. Iyyunni** *(Trichur-South)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether it will not be possible to get water, by digging a few tanks round about the town of Trichur, which will be sufficient for drinking purposes alone;

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